

DESIRED PLANT COMMUNITY

Desired plant community (DPC) is a description of a plant community which meets the needs for present and future uses of a particular area. DPC answers the question, what do we want the plant communities in these areas to look like in the future?

DPC helps to implement ecosystem management by being ecologically, economically, and socially sound. DPC will help assure the vegetative communities within an area are compatible with the current or potential uses of that area. DPC combines the vegetative needs of all uses into a common goal rather than having separate goals for each.

The DPC for Ruby Canyon was developed by a team of individuals who have an interest in the area. Team members include recreationists, livestock operators, wildlife managers, federal and local government officials, members of environmental organizations and concerned citizens.

In 1993 an Ecological Site Inventory (ESI) was completed in the Ruby Canyon planning area. ESI is an intensive vegetative inventory that describes the present vegetative communities in the area. The use of ESI helps assure the development of realistic desired plant communities that we know can be obtained. Other vegetative studies, past or present, can also be utilized in the DPC process.

Information on occurrences from the past such as wildfires, prescribed burns, chainings, seedings, and other disturbances can help determine why areas look like they do.

The DPC will guide us in future management of the area. It will help in determining which management actions or activities may or may not lead us toward our landscape goal. DPC will give us a better understanding on when and where to use the management tools available to us such as fire, reseeding, grazing management or other vegetation manipulation practices. DPC will assure that vegetative objectives are ecologically based and are attainable.

Ruby Canyon Desired Plant Community

Following is the DPC for each of the management zones. The DPC will be described for each ecological site type. Ecological sites are areas that have a potential for producing similar plant communities based upon similar soils, climate and, topography. Each DPC description for an ecological site will contain a table illustrating the current percent composition of trees, shrubs, forbs, warm season grasses and cool season grasses for each site writeup area (SWA) and the **desired** percent composition. Also

included is the ecological status (E = Early, M = Mid, L = Late) in relation to the potential natural community (PNC). Following the table are general notes pertaining to the ecological site. Map (EIS map in envelope) located in the back of this document identifies the location of each SWA and the respective ecological site.

The effort focused on describing a DPC description that allowed for changes to occur but still be acceptable. Also the description allowed for diversity in seral stages within ecological site types, understanding that this diversity was desirable as well. SWA's not listed in the DPC description were either small units or areas of little concern.

The DPC team felt there were a few points that need to be made which are important in understanding the DPC and need to be considered in the future use of it.

- The ESI was completed in an above average year precipitation and production wise.
- It is important to remember that the percent composition figures are derived from production figures for each SWA.
- Pinyon-Juniper production data from the ESI were obtained from charts derived by the Natural Resource Conservation Service and are based upon tree size and density of foliage.
- Sagebrush production figures from the ESI is total leaf production not just current annual growth.
- Half-shrubs are included with shrubs.
- From the teams standpoint both cheatgrass and cryptogamic soils are present and will continue to be part of most vegetative communities at some level. Management should discourage any increase in cheatgrass.
- Photographs of various sagebrush composition levels could be useful in illustrating to future personnel exactly what the defined DPC limits may look like, i.e., it is difficult to visualize what 70 percent composition might look like.

NORTH OF RIVER

Overall the DPC team was satisfied with the current vegetative make-up and condition in the north zone. In general, there were two major areas of focus: 1) Decrease the cheatgrass composition while increasing perennial grasses, and 2) Maintain the shrub and forb component for antelope habitat.

Ecological Site:

Alkaline Slopes # 297

| Ecological Site. | | | CS 11 = 2 1 | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|---------|-----------------|---------|----------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| Vegetation Type | | | DPC | | | | | | |
| | 35 | 40 | 47 | 100 | | Composition (%) | | | |
| | | Current | Species | Composi | tion (%) | (70) | | | |
| Trees | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | | | |
| Shrubs | 11 | 28 | 47 | 39 | | 10 - 50 | | | |
| Forbs | 7 | 22 | 26 | 1 | | 5 - 25 | | | |
| W. Grasses | 9 | 14 | 9 | 33 | | 5 - 40 | | | |
| C. Grasses | 15 | 2 | 0 | 3 | | 5 - 20 | | | |
| Seral Stage | Е | M | M | L | | E, M or L | | | |

- Overall, increase perennial grasses particularly cool season and decrease cheatgrass.
- Prefer a mixture of seral stages.
- Maintain shrub and forb components for antelope forage.

Ecological Site:

Semidesert Loam # 325

| Vegetation Type | | | SW | A # | | DPC |
|-----------------|----|---------|---------|---------|----------|-----------------|
| | 39 | 48 | | | | Composition (%) |
| | | Current | Species | Composi | tion (%) | () |
| Trees | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 |
| Shrubs | 23 | 4 | | | | 4 - 23 |
| Forbs | 15 | 17 | | | | 15 - 20 |
| W. Grasses | 39 | 11 | | | | 10 - 45 |
| C. Grasses | 3 | 64 | | | | 5 - 65 |
| Seral Stage | M | L | | | | M or L |

Notes:

- Prefer a mixture of mid and late seral stages to provide diversity of vegetation types.
- A desirable mix of shrubs and grasses are present although an increase in cool season grasses in SWA #39 and shrubs in SWA #48 is desired.

Ecological Site: Semidesert Juniper # 329

| Vegetation | | | DPC | | | | |
|----------------|----|--------|-----|----|----|----|-----------------|
| Type | 1 | 6 | 8 | 14 | 16 | 19 | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | | , | | | |
| Trees | 0 | 3 | 59 | 72 | 52 | 6 | 0 - 40 |
| Shrubs | 47 | 85 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 15 | 30 - 70 |
| Forbs | 31 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 18 | 23 | 1 - 15 |
| W. Grasses | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 10 - 50 |
| C. Grasses | 1 | 5 | 36 | 14 | 21 | 45 | 10 - 50 |
| Seral Stage | M | M | L | M | L | M | M or L |

Ecological #Site 329 (cont.)

| Vegetation | | | SW | ⁷ A # | | | DPC |
|----------------|----|--------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|----|-----------------|
| Type | 22 | 25 | 28 | 32 | 33 | 34 | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | t Species | Compos | ition (%) | | , , |
| Trees | 85 | 0 | 15 | 18 | 35 | 10 | 0 - 40 |
| Shrubs | 1 | 72 | 64 | 52 | 50 | 39 | 30 - 70 |
| Forbs | 7 | 1 | 0 | 14 | 4 | 7 | 1 - 15 |
| W. Grasses | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 12 | 10 - 50 |
| C. Grasses | 3 | 20 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 10 - 50 |
| Seral Stage | M | L | L | L | L | L | M or L |

| Vegetation | | | DPC | | | | |
|----------------|----|------------|-----|-----|-----|--|-----------------|
| Туре | 36 | 105 141 | 106 | 109 | 110 | | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | | | | | |
| Trees | 38 | 48 | 31 | 52 | 0 | | 0 - 40 |
| Shrubs | 39 | 34 | 59 | 29 | 57 | | 30 - 70 |
| Forbs | 3 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 6 | | 1 - 15 |
| W. Grasses | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 12 | | 10 - 50 |
| C. Grasses | 12 | 10 | 3 | 11 | 15 | | 10 - 50 |
| Seral Stage | L | L | M | L | M | | M or L |

- Prefer a mixture of mid and late seral stages to provide diversity of vegetation types.
- Most SWA's need an increase in perennial grasses.

Ecological Site: Loamy Saltdesert # 401

| Vegetation | | | SW | 'A# | | | DPC |
|----------------|----|--------|-----------|----------|----------|-----|-----------------|
| Type | 24 | 27 | 30 | 31 | 49 | 101 | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | t Species | Composit | tion (%) | | |
| Trees | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Shrubs | 22 | 49 | 31 | 4 | 0 | 52 | 4 - 35 |
| Forbs | 6 | 0 | 10 | 48 | 20 | 4 | 1 - 15 |
| W. Grasses | 20 | 13 | 12 | 0 | 8 | 26 | 25 - 60 |
| C. Grasses | 12 | 2 | 8 | 29 | 50 | 10 | 15 - 60 |
| Seral Stage | M | M | M | Е | | L | E, M or L |

Notes:

- -In SWA 27 and 31 maintain Elsa at current percentage and maintain low plant heights for prairie dog habitat.
- -Maintain SWA #114 in Late Seral.
- -Prefer a mixture of seral stages for diversity.
- -Decrease cheatgrass: Cheatgrass composition ranges from 10 to 40% in these SWA's.
- -No seral stage is listed for SWA 49 due to the large amount of crested wheatgrass.

Ecological Site: Sandy Saltdesert # 402

| Vegetation | | | SW | 'A# | | DPC |
|----------------|----|--------|----|-----|----|-----------------|
| Type | 2 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 20 | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | | | | |
| Trees | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Shrubs | 12 | 37 | 69 | 5 | 3 | 5 - 45 |
| Forbs | 11 | 1 | 14 | 18 | 22 | 5 - 15 |
| W. Grasses | 0 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 10 - 25 |
| C. Grasses | 0 | 5 | 3 | 16 | 6 | 10 - 25 |
| Seral Stage | Е | Е | Е | M | Е | M or L |

Ecological Site # 402 (cont.)

| Vegetation | | | SW | /A # | | DPC |
|----------------|----|------------|------------|------|--|-----------------|
| Туре | 38 | 154 160 | 165 166 | | | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | | | | |
| Trees | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Shrubs | 50 | 4 | 25 | | | 5 - 45 |
| Forbs | 18 | 13 | 8 | | | 5 - 15 |
| W. Grasses | 8 | 8 | 21 | | | 10 - 25 |
| C. Grasses | 7 | 16 | 9 | | | 10 - 25 |
| Seral Stage | Е | M | M | | | M or L |

Notes:

- Increase perennial grass composition and decrease amount of cheatgrass. Cheatgrass composition ranges from 14 to 76%.
- Prefer mid and late seral stages, provides diversity of vegetation types.

Ecological Site: Stony Saltdesert # 404

| Vegetation | | | DPC | | | | |
|----------------|----|-----|-----|-----|--|--|-----------------|
| Type | 12 | 102 | 104 | 153 | | | Composition (%) |
| | | | | | | | |
| Trees | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Shrubs | 44 | 73 | 66 | 66 | | | 40 - 70 |
| Forbs | 33 | 4 | 11 | 11 | | | 5 - 20 |
| W. Grasses | 10 | 7 | 10 | 10 | | | 5 - 25 |
| C. Grasses | 9 | 12 | 0 | 0 | | | 5 - 25 |
| Seral Stage | М | М | М | M | | | M or L |

- Increase cool season grasses in #104 and #153.
- Prefer mid or late seral stages.

- Maintain at least a 25% composition of greasewood in SWA #153.

Ecological Site: Saltdesert Breaks #406

| Vegetation | | | DPC | | | | |
|----------------|----|---------|---------|--------|-----------|-----|-----------------|
| Type | 7 | 17 | 26 | 46 | 108 | 115 | Composition (%) |
| | | Current | Species | Compos | ition (%) | | (, 0) |
| Trees | 0 | 12 | 0 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 5 - 20 |
| Shrubs | 50 | 16 | 44 | 12 | 34 | 44 | 10 - 45 |
| Forbs | 29 | 11 | 11 | 13 | 18 | 11 | 5 - 20 |
| W. Grasses | 4 | 3 | 6 | 28 | 7 | 6 | 5 - 50 |
| C. Grasses | 12 | 31 | 20 | 1 | 13 | 20 | 5 - 50 |
| Seral Stage | L | L | L | M | L | L | M or L |

Notes:

- Maintain SWA # 17 in late seral
- Prefer mid or late seral stages, provides diversity of vegetation types.
- Increase perennial grasses and decrease amount of cheatgrass.

Ecological Site: Silty Saltdesert #410

| Vegetation | | | SW | 7 A # | | DPC |
|----------------|----|---------|---------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Туре | 42 | 43 | 45 | | | Composition (%) |
| | | Current | Species | Composi | ition (%) | |
| Trees | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Shrubs | 19 | 72 | 41 | | | 20 - 60 |
| Forbs | 18 | 10 | 11 | | | 10 - 20 |
| W. Grasses | 18 | 0 | 28 | | | 10 - 20 |
| C. Grasses | 23 | 19 | 0 | | | 10 - 25 |
| Seral Stage | L | L | L | | | L |

Notes:

- Prefer late seral stage, provides diversity of vegetation types.
- Maintain SWA #45 in late seral stage.

Ecological Site: Foothills Juniper # 447

| Vegetation | | | SW | /A # | | | DPC |
|----------------|-----|---------|---------|--------|-----------|-----|--------------------|
| Type | 9 | 13 | 15 | 18 | 21 | 23 | Composition (%) |
| | | Current | Species | Compos | ition (%) | | . , |
| Trees | 70 | 51 | 80 | 39 | 50 | 66 | 39 - 80 |
| Shrubs | 1 | 23 | 9 | 45 | 35 | 15 | 10 - 30 |
| Forbs | 13 | 5 | 1 | 15 | 4 | 7 | 5 - 15 |
| W. Grasses | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 10 - 30 |
| C. Grasses | 16 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 10 - 30 |
| Seral Stage | PNC | L | L | L | L | PNC | PNC or L |

| Vegetation | | | SW | / A # | | DPC |
|----------------|----|---------|---------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Type | 29 | 37 | 41 | 103 | | Composition (%) |
| | | Current | Species | Compos | ition (%) | (1) |
| Trees | 55 | 60 | 77 | 55 | | 39 - 80 |
| Shrubs | 36 | 14 | 18 | 39 | | 10 - 30 |
| Forbs | 0 | 5 | 1 | 7 | | 5 - 15 |
| W. Grasses | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | | 10 - 30 |
| C. Grasses | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | | 10 - 30 |
| Seral Stage | L | L | L | L | | L |

- Maintain scattered density of juniper for birds with varied shrub/herb understory in SWA's 9, 37, 41, 110.
- Maintain juniper for sensitive bird species and the rare plants Amsonia jonesii and Cryptantha osterhoutii in SWA's 15 and 21.

- Increase perennial grass cover.

Colorado River

The desired riparian plant communities for the Colorado River are diverse; that is, have a variety of species and age classes. Diversity within riparian areas is primarily a function of hydrology. Diverse plant communities are desirable because they provide scenery, wildlife viewing opportunities, shade and occasional open river banks for recreational use by people. Food, cover, nesting habitat, and travel corridors are provided for wildlife. Livestock utilize these areas for forage and cover. Water quality is improved by the shade moderating water temperatures, and reduced sediment loads resulting from vegetation trapping sediment and stabilizing banks.

The riparian vegetative inventory on the Colorado River was less intensive than the ESI used in the uplands. This inventory consisted of defining the following parameters for each SWA along the river. These parameters were selected based on major vegetative concerns. Table 1 summarizes these parameters for each SWA within the Colorado River inventory.

- Dominant vegetation: The three most dominant species where identified.
- Mature cottonwoods: The presence or absence of mature cottonwoods was noted.
- Cottonwood regeneration: Age classes of cottonwood trees was noted particularly saplings.
- Exotic species and weeds: The presence of exotic species and weeds was noted as well as the degree of presence e.g. high, medium, low.

Table 1

| SWA | Species | Species | Species | M | C | W |
|-----|-------------|-------------|-------------|---|----|-----|
| # | #1 | #2 | #3 | * | ** | *** |
| L1 | Pofr | Tamarix sp. | Disp | Y | Y | L |
| L2 | Rhtr | Caca | Prunus sp. | N | Y | L |
| L3 | Tamarix sp. | Rhtr | Salix sp. | N | Y | L |
| L4 | Tamarix sp. | Pofr | Rhtr | Y | Y | Н |
| L5 | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Carex sp. | N | Y | L |
| L6 | Rhtr | Salix sp. | Caca | N | Y | L |
| L7 | Tamarix sp. | Brte | Artr | N | Y | M |
| L8 | Salix sp. | Carex sp. | Caca | N | Y | L |
| L9 | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Pofr | N | Y | L |
| L10 | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Rhtr | N | Y | M |
| L11 | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Pofr | Y | Y | L |
| L12 | Pofr | Tamarix sp. | Spai | Y | Y | M |
| L13 | Salix sp. | Tamarix sp. | Carex sp. | N | N | L |
| L14 | Salix sp. | Rhtr | Tamarix sp. | N | Y | L |
| L15 | Tamarix sp. | Artr | Pofr | Y | Y | L |
| L16 | Salix sp. | Tamarix sp. | Brte | N | Y | Н |
| L18 | Salix sp. | Pofr | Tamarix sp. | N | Y | L |
| L19 | Salix sp. | Pofr | Carex sp. | Y | Y | L |
| L20 | Brte | Pofr | | Y | Y | M |
| L21 | Salix sp. | Tamarix sp. | Rhtr | Y | Y | L |
| L22 | Pofr | Brte | | Y | Y | L |
| L23 | Salix sp. | Tamarix sp. | Pofr | Y | Y | L |
| L24 | Salix sp. | Tamarix sp. | Carex sp. | N | Y | L |
| R1 | Tamarix sp. | Pofr | Disp | Y | Y | Н |
| R2 | Salix sp. | Carex sp. | Juncus sp. | N | N | L |
| R3 | Pofr | Elan | Tamarix sp. | Y | N | M |
| R4 | Pofr | Salix sp. | | Y | Y | L |
| R5 | Pofr | Tamarix sp. | Carex sp. | Y | Y | M |
| R6 | Pofr | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Y | Y | M |
| R7 | Caca | Salix sp. | Rhtr | N | Y | L |
| R8 | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Pofr | Y | Y | L |
| R9 | Tamarix sp. | Rhtr | Pofr | N | Y | L |
| R10 | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Rhtr | N | Y | L |
| R11 | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Rhtr | N | Y | L |
| R12 | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Rhtr | N | Y | L |
| R13 | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Rhtr | N | Y | L |
| R14 | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Rhtr | Y | Y | L |
| R15 | Rhtr | Tamarix sp. | Chna | Y | N | L |
| R16 | Rhtr | Salix sp. | | N | N | L |

R17 Tamarix sp. Rhtr Pofr Y Y M

Table 1 (cont.)

| SWA | Species | Species | Species | M | C | W |
|-----|-------------|-------------|-------------|---|----|-----|
| # | #1 | #2 | #3 | * | ** | *** |
| R18 | Pofr | Tamarix sp. | Rhtr | Y | Y | M |
| R19 | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Rhtr | N | N | L |
| R20 | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Chna | N | N | L |
| R21 | Tamarix sp. | Elan | Salix sp. | N | Y | L |
| R22 | Salix sp. | Pofr | Tamarix sp. | N | Y | M |
| R23 | Rhtr | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Y | N | L |
| R24 | Tamarix sp. | Rhtr | Salix sp. | Y | N | L |
| R25 | Pofr | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Y | Y | L |
| R26 | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Pofr | Y | Y | L |
| R27 | Phco | Salix sp. | | N | N | L |
| R28 | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | | N | N | L |
| R29 | Salix sp. | Tamarix sp. | | N | N | L |
| R30 | Juniper sp. | | | N | N | L |
| R31 | Tamarix sp. | Brte | | N | N | L |
| R32 | Rhtr | Tamarix sp. | Disp | N | N | L |
| R33 | Salix sp. | Rhtr | | N | N | L |
| R34 | Pofr | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | Y | Y | L |
| R35 | Rhtr | Tamarix sp. | Salix sp. | N | N | L |
| R36 | Rhtr | Tamarix sp. | Pofr | Y | Y | L |
| R37 | Rhtr | Pofr | Tamarix sp. | Y | Y | L |

<u>Species Key</u>: Pofr = Fremont Cottonwood; Tamarix sp. = Saltcedar; Disp = Inland saltgrass; Rhtr = Skunkbush Sumac; Caca = Reedgrass; Prunus sp. = Wildrose; Salix sp. = Willow; Carex sp. = Sedge; Brte = Cheatgrass; Spai = Alkali Sacaton; Juncus = Rush; Elan = Russian Olive; Chna = Rubber Rabbitbrush; Phco. = Canarygrass.

* Presence of Mature Cottonwoods

Y = Yes

N = No

** Cottonwood Regeneration

Y = Yes

N = No

*** Weed Status

H = High

M = Moderate

L = Low

Map E-1 page E-13, Map E-2 page E-14, and Map E-3 page E-15 illustrate the presence of mature cottonwoods, cottonwood regeneration and weed status in relation to the respective SWA along the Colorado River.

MAP E-1 NATURAL COTTONWOOD IN COLORADO RIVER CORRIDOR MAP E-2 COTTONWOOD REGENERATION IN THE COLORADO RIVER CORRIDOR

MAP E-3 WEED STATUS IN THE COLORADO RIVER CORRIDOR

Three primary DPC objectives were identified for the Colorado River based on these parameters.

Objective #1: The Colorado River corridor will be managed to provide a mosaic of healthy, diverse community types.

As such the existing reed/willow, willow/sedge, willow/cottonwood, skunkbush sumac/reedgrass, skunkbush sumac/willow community types will be maintained. The cottonwood/saltcedar, saltcedar/skunkbush sumac, cottonwood/Russian olive, saltcedar/Russian olive, salt cedar/willow communities will be tolerated due to the lack of an environmentally acceptable method to remove the saltcedar component. Management actions should be directed toward reducing saltcedar.

SWA's L7, L20, L22, R2, R19, R30 and R31 have unacceptable diversity due to complete dominance by exotic species such as cheatgrass or saltcedar. To the extent possible these areas will be managed to improve species composition of native species.

Objective #2: Reduce the current levels of exotic species or weeds where present.

Exotic species like tamarisk, Russian olive, and knapweed are presently a component of the Colorado River riparian community and pose a threat to diversity. Communities with a dominance of exotics are not acceptable.

SWA's L3, L7, L10, R8, R13, R17, R19, R21, R28 and R31 are areas with a dominance of exotics. These areas will be managed to reduce their current levels of exotics or weeds. Other vegetative communities with the presence of exotics will be managed to maintain or reduce their current level. In areas where exotics have not yet been established, every attempt should be made to prevent their introduction.

Objective #3: Preserve mature cottonwood stands and promote cottonwood regeneration.

The species and age class of most interest are mature cottonwoods. They are desirable because they offer special scenic qualities, provide shade for moderating water temperatures, shade for recreationists, are used by wildlife including the bald eagle and are given special consideration because of the difficulty in reproduction. Management for mature cottonwoods involves preserving potential recruitment areas, protecting existing stands of mixed-aged cottonwoods and management of exotic species.

Preserve mature cottonwoods in SWA's L1, L4, L11, L12, L15, L19, L20, L21, L22, L23, R1, R3, R4, R5, R6, R8, R14, R15, R17, R18, R23, R24, R25, R26, R34, R36, and R37.

Additionally, manage SWA's L1, L2, L3, L4, L5, L6, L7, L8, L9, L10, L11, L12, L14, L15, L16, L18, L19, L20, L21, L22, L23, L24, R1, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14,

R17, R18, R21, R22, R25, R26, R34, R36, and R37 to promote existing cottonwood regeneration.

South of River

Overall the DPC team dealing with the zone south of the river felt the present vegetative communities were DPC. Given this, the task was to obtain a description that is acceptable and allows for some change. The two major areas of focus for this zone was: 1) acceptable compositions of pinyon and juniper trees and sagebrush, and 2) increasing cool season grasses and reducing cheatgrass.

Ecological Site: Semidesert Loam (UT) # 209

| Vegetation | | | DPC | | | | |
|----------------|----|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|--|-----------------|
| Type | 60 | | | | | | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | t Species | Compos | ition (%) | | () |
| Trees | 0 | | | | | | 0 |
| Shrubs | 69 | | | | | | 25 - 70 |
| Forbs | 2 | | | | | | 2 - 10 |
| W. Grasses | 8 | | | | | | 5 - 20 |
| C. Grasses | 0 | | | | | | 5 - 10 |
| Seral Stage | L | | | | | | L |

- Upper limit on sagebrush set at 800 lbs/acre. The higher sagebrush composition is acceptable due to the area being critical deer winter range.
- Decrease cheatgrass and increase cool season grasses.
- Prefer late seral stage.

Ecological Sites: Semi-desert Loam (UT) #209 (*)
Deep Loam #292 (**)

Salt Desert Breaks #406 (***)

| Vegetation | | | SW | 'A# | | DPC |
|----------------|---------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------------|
| Туре | * 71 | * 77 92 127 134 | ** 173 | ** 192 | *** 121 | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | t Species | Composi | ition (%) | |
| Trees | 0 | 0 | 23 | 0 | 0 | 0 - 25 |
| Shrubs | 65 | 80 | 54 | 76 | 61 | 5 - 70 |
| Forbs | 8 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 3 - 25 |
| W. Grasses | 8 | 0 | 10 | 4 | 8 | 5 - 30 |
| C. Grasses | 11 | 19 | 8 | 20 | 11 | 5 - 40 |
| Seral Stage | L | L | M | M | L | M or L |

- It is desirable that 85% of acres of these SWA's fall within the DPC description of mid or late seral stages. The remaining 15% could fall into other seral stages. This allows for diversity in seral stages.
- Other seral stages would be recognized by the extreme domination by one particular vegetation type (trees, shrubs, grasses, forbs).
- No trees were recorded in any of the transacts but some parks have a few trees. A few trees are acceptable.
- SWA's 77, 92, 127 and 134 currently have a composition of sagebrush outside the DPC upper limits.

Ecological Site: Rolling Loam # 298

| Vegetation | | | | ⁷ A # | | | DPC |
|----------------|-------------------------|--------|------------|------------------|-----------|------------|-----------------|
| Туре | 57 113 117 125 | 185 | 179 246 | 183 | 188 | 193 260 | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | t Species | Compos | ition (%) | | |
| Trees | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 33 | 42 | 0 |
| Shrubs | 49 | 19 | 61 | 59 | 42 | 39 | 20 - 60 |
| Forbs | 0 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 5 - 20 |
| W. Grasses | 3 | 0 | 6 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 1 - 20 |
| C. Grasses | 46 | 61 | 29 | 21 | 25 | 17 | 20 - 60 |
| Seral Stage | | | | | | | |

Ecological Site #298 (cont.)

| Vegetation | | | DPC | | | | |
|----------------|-----|--------|-----------|--------|------------|--|-----------------|
| Type | 212 | 217 | | | | | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | t Species | Compos | sition (%) | | (, 3) |
| Trees | 0 | 16 | | | | | 0 |
| Shrubs | 63 | 48 | | | | | 20 - 60 |
| Forbs | 2 | 5 | | | | | 5 - 20 |
| W. Grasses | 6 | 3 | | | | | 1 - 20 |
| C. Grasses | 24 | 21 | | | | | 20 - 60 |
| Seral Stage | M | M | | | | | М |

- Cool season grass component is crested wheatgrass.
- Unclassified seral stages is due to a large portion of these areas being comprised of crested wheatgrass, a seeded non-native.
- SWA's 212 and 217 represent a desired native community.
- Increase forb and warm season grass composition in most SWA's.
- Limit sagebrush production to 400 lbs/acre.
- Long term goal is to have native grasses replace the crested wheatgrass.

Ecological Site: Sandy Foothills #310

| Vegetation | | | | DPC | | | |
|----------------|-----|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| Туре | 169 | 176 244 | 177 | 201 | 206 | 218 | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | | | | | |
| Trees | 0 | 78 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 70 | 0 - 20 |
| Shrubs | 69 | 17 | 62 | 83 | 77 | 23 | 20 - 60 |
| Forbs | 13 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 5 - 15 |
| W. Grasses | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 - 20 |
| C. Grasses | 2 | 3 | 30 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 5 - 50 |
| Seral Stage | Е | Е | Е | Е | Е | Е | M or L |

- Overall, prefer an increase in perennial grasses, moderate shrub composition and low tree composition.
- Prefer mid or late seral stage. Early seral stages indicates dominance of shrubs or trees.

Ecological Site: Semi-desert Loam #327

| Vegetation | | | SW | / A # | | | DPC |
|----------------|----|------------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-----|-----------------|
| Туре | 65 | 66 94 95 116 122 | 74 93 | 175 | 182 | 189 | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | t Species | Compos | ition (%) | | |
| Trees | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 23 | 0 - 35 |
| Shrubs | 71 | 11 | 9 | 65 | 42 | 62 | 5 - 70 |
| Forbs | 1 | 27 | 16 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 3 - 20 |
| W. Grasses | 8 | 25 | 30 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 5 - 40 |
| C. Grasses | 15 | 14 | 9 | 21 | 44 | 10 | 5 - 40 |
| Seral Stage | M | M | M | M | M | M | M or L |

| Vegetation | | | SW | /A # | | DPC |
|----------------|-----|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------------|
| Type | 194 | 215 | 219 | | | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | t Species | Compos | ition (%) | , |
| Trees | 0 | 54 | 0 | | | 0 - 35 |
| Shrubs | 79 | 24 | 45 | | | 5 - 70 |
| Forbs | 2 | 1 | 0 | | | 3 - 20 |
| W. Grasses | 0 | 2 | 6 | | | 5 - 40 |
| C. Grasses | 20 | 15 | 50 | | | 5 - 40 |
| Seral Stage | M | M | L | | | M or L |

Notes:

- It is desirable that 85% of acres of these SWA's fall within the DPC description of mid or late seral stages. The remaining 15% could fall into other seral stages. This allows for diversity in seral stages.

- Other seral stages would be recognized by the extreme domination by one particular vegetation type (trees, shrubs, grasses, forbs).

Ecological Site: Semidesert Juniper #329

| Vegetation | | | DPC | | | | |
|----------------|----|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|--|-----------------|
| Туре | 81 | 89 | 90 | 128 | 131 | | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | t Species | Compos | ition (%) | | (1.1) |
| Trees | 67 | 67 | 67 | 67 | 67 | | 30 - 70 |
| Black Sage | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | | 15 - 25 |
| Shrubs | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | 1 - 15 |
| Forbs | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | | 5 - 10 |
| W. Grasses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 3 - 20 |
| C. Grasses | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | 3 - 20 |
| Seral Stage | L | L | L | L | L | | L |

- It is desirable that 80% of acres of these SWA's fall within the DPC description of mid or late seral stages. The remaining 20% could fall into other seral stages. This allows for diversity in seral stages.
- Other seral stages would be recognized by the extreme domination by one particular vegetation type (trees, shrubs, grasses, forbs).
- Overall prefer increase in warm and cool season grasses and decrease in trees.

Ecological Site: Loamy Saltdesert #401

| Vegetation | | | DPC | | | | |
|----------------|----|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|--|-----------------|
| Type | 63 | | | | | | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | t Species | Compos | ition (%) | | (* 3) |
| Trees | 0 | | | | | | 0 |
| Shrubs | 26 | | | | | | 10 - 35 |
| Forbs | 10 | | | | | | 5 - 10 |
| W. Grasses | 4 | | | | | | 10 - 60 |
| C. Grasses | 56 | | | | | | 15 - 60 |
| Seral Stage | L | | | | | | L |

Notes:

- Good diversity and balance between vegetation types.
- No one vegetation type should exceed 70% composition to maintain diversity.
- Prevent increase in annuals.

Ecological Site: Sandy Saltdesert #402

| Vegetation Type | SWA# | | | | | | DPC |
|--------------------|------|--------|------------|-----|-----|--|-----------------|
| | 56 | 137 | 138 139 | 160 | 164 | | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | | | | | |
| Trees | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| Shrubs | 38 | 25 | 37 | 5 | 25 | | 30 - 45 |
| Forbs | 0 | 8 | 3 | 18 | 8 | | 2 - 15 |
| W. Grasses | 49 | 21 | 25 | 8 | 21 | | 30 - 45 |
| C. Grasses | 5 | 9 | 10 | 17 | 9 | | 5 - 20 |
| Seral Stage | L | M | M | M | M | | M or L |

- Good diversity and balance of vegetation types.
- Prefer mid or late seral stage for diversity.

- Encourage perennial grasses and decrease cheatgrass.

Ecological Site: Foothills Juniper: #447 Clayey Foothills #289(*)

| Cayby 1 obtains #207() | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|------|--------|-----|-----|----|--|-----------------|
| Vegetation | SWA# | | | | | | DPC |
| Type | 61 | 64 | 68 | 73 | 75 | | Composition (%) |
| | | Curren | ` ′ | | | | |
| Juniper | 66 | 41 | 50 | 57 | 79 | | 40 - 80 |
| Pinyon Pine | 0 | 5 | 6 | 13 | 10 | | 0 - 10 |
| Sagebrush | 7 | 24 | 35 | 0 | 0 | | 0 - 30 |
| Other shrubs | 13 | 16 | 1 | 9 | 1 | | 1 - 15 |
| W. Grasses | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | | 5 - 10 |
| C. Grasses | 4 | 8 | 5 | 13 | 2 | | 5 - 15 |
| Seral Stage | L | L | L | PNC | L | | M, L, or PNC |

| Vegetation | SWA# | | | | | | DPC |
|----------------|------|--------|-----------|----------|-------------|---|-----------------|
| Type | 76 | 78 | 79 | * 187 | | | Composition (%) |
| | | Carman | 4 Carrier | 234 | iti an (0/) | | |
| | | Curren | | | | | |
| Juniper | 88 | 78 | 70 | 80 | | | 40 - 80 |
| Pinyon Pine | 0 | 4 | 9 | 0 | | | 0 - 10 |
| Sagebrush | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | | | 0 - 30 |
| Other shrubs | 0 | 2 | 10 | 1 | | | 1 - 15 |
| W. Grasses | 0 | 2 | 10 | 2 | | | 5 - 10 |
| C. Grasses | 5 | 5 | 9 | 7 | _ | _ | 5 - 15 |
| Seral Stage | L | L | L | L | | | M, L or PNC |

- Mid to upper limit of sagebrush desirable in SWA's 64 and 68 for deer winter range.
- Prefer that 80% of acreage in these SWA's fall within the DPC description. The remaining 20% could fall into other seral stages. This allows for diversity in seral stages within this ecological site.
- Other seral stages would be recognized by extreme domination by one or two particular vegetation types (trees, shrubs, grasses, forbs or annuals).
- Maintain a high percentage of tree cover in the southern area of the planning unit including SWA's 116, 117, 180, 181, 188, 190, 192, 196, 197, 199, 219, 221, 222,
- 223, 226, 230, 234, and 247 to discourage movement of bighorn sheep to private land in Glade Park.
- Other SWA's within this ecological site that are not listed above are smaller areas. The preference is that these SWA's be in various seral stages but not necessarily in a particular one. This also allows for diversity of seral stages.